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CITY OF SAINT PAUL Christopher B. Coleman, Mayor

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DATE: March 31, 2010

TO: Comprehensive Planning Committee

FROM: Anton Jerve (651/266-6567) and Patricia James (651/266-6639)

SUBJECT: Zoning Map Format Amendment

Attached is a draft resolution initiating preparation of a zoning study to update the official map in the Zoning Code to a Geographic Information Systems (GIS) format.

Background

The current official zoning map consists of 44 large black and white paper panels.

As zone changes occur, whether requested by a property owner or included in a zoning study, including a 40-acre study, the paper panels must be updated by hand. This process is both time-consuming and can result in errors and inconsistencies between panels.

The zoning map in a GIS format will facilitate the process of updating the panels, increase the precision of district boundaries, as well as make the maps more user-friendly. In addition, the updated format will provide the opportunity to study the zoning districts using the spatial analysis capabilities of GIS.

This update will not substantially change any zoning districts and will correct previous errors.

Using a GIS format for official zoning maps has become standard practice nationally.

Scope of the study

The study will update the official map in the Zoning Code from a paper format to a Geographic Information Systems (GIS) format.

The update will not substantially change any zoning districts and will correct previous errors. Using a GIS format for official zoning maps has become standard practice nationally.

Staff recommendation

That the Comprehensive Planning Committee recommend the Planning Commission initiate a zoning study to prepare an update to the official map of the zoning code from a paper to a Geographic Information Systems (GIS) format

If there are questions, please call Anton Jerve at 651/266-6567 or Patricia James at 651/266-6639.